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THE DOCKERY RESOLUTION.

The Charges Against Senators and Representatives to be Investigated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—[Special]—The final conclusion with respect to the Dockery resolution providing for an investigation of the charges that Representatives and Senators were interested in the silver pool will probably be reached by the rules committee soon after the holidays are over.

The Speaker has doubts of the propriety of investigating charges that do not make a specific and definite allegation, with somewhat of circumstantial detail, and thought the rules of the committee should have more of a basis than simple newspaper publications upon which to order an investigation on Messrs. Blount and McMillen, Democratic members, thought the committee would be justified in ordering an investigation, and McKinley was also of the opinion that an investigation ought to be had. The decision to report the resolution to the House with favorable recommendation had almost been reached when the shipping bill and other matters came up and delayed the final determination.

The Keane Failure.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—[Special]—It had been thought that the ebb-mark in S. A. Keane's bank assets had been reached, but the sum to be distributed among the depositors has been further diminished by upwards of \$100,000. It looks much as if from 5 to 10 per cent. will be all creditors will receive. Of original figures, \$270,000 or thereabouts for bills receivable, \$135,000 vanished early, it being found that a large amount of Keane's personal notes, accommodation paper of his friends and worthless claims were included. Now an expert accountant, who has been going through the bills receivable, reports that fully \$80,000 consists of protested notes whereof ten makers are entirely insolvent. Many are long past due, some of them of more than a year. In addition to this \$10,000 on deposit at the American Exchange Bank of New York has been applied on Keane's paper held by it. The Boston Bank did the same thing with \$3,500 in its vaults.

Fire in a Prison.

AUBURN, N. Y., Dec. 27.—[Special]—Fire broke out in the broom shop in the Auburn prison at 7 o'clock and spread into adjacent shops. The State shop was entirely destroyed and the broom shop was badly damaged. The store room of the collar shop was partly burned and the chair shop was slightly damaged. No estimate of the loss has been made, neither is it known how or where the fire started. Fred A. Mildeck and Joe Evans, firemen, while on a ladder, were precipitated into the ruins by falling off the wall and seriously injured. They are now in the prison hospital.

The Weather To-Day.

Forecast: For Virginia, colder, fair, northwesterly winds, fair Monday.

ROANOKE AROUSED

Ferretting out the Mystery of the Murder.

Williamson's Alibi Strongly Attacked.

Many Witnesses Examined by the Coroner, but the Investigation not Completed—The Inquest to be Resumed at This Afternoon—Habeas Corpus Proceedings Before Judge Robertson—The Prisoners Still in Jail—The Citizens and Real Estate Exchange Take Action.

The coroner's inquest into the killing of Mr. Thomas G. Massie was in session yesterday and will be continued to-day. The proceedings were varied by the interjection of a writ of habeas corpus made by Judge Robertson for the two negroes, Redd and Williamson, who had been arrested on suspicion. Under this they were released and immediately re-arrested on a warrant "on information" charging them with murder. The hearing for bail was then begun, but was continued to Monday. Both prisoners presented alibi testimony which has been weakened at two important points.

The citizens mass meeting and that of the Real Estate Exchange forwarded materially the raising funds to secure the apprehension and conviction of the murderers, and to otherwise aid to that end.

The funeral of the murdered gentleman will take place at St. John's Episcopal Church this afternoon at 2:30.

AT THE INQUEST.

The Coroner's Jury Proceeds to Find the Facts of the Murder.

The nefarious killing of Thomas G. Massie engrossed the attention and interest of all Roanoke yesterday. The coroner's jury was early secured, and it will be seen at a glance that a better or more representative jury could not have been obtained. From early morning groups of business men stood about discussing the situation, and many and loud were the denunciations of the perpetrators of the dastardly outrage. Indeed, there was not wanting sentiment in favor of a summary dealing out of justice at the hands of the people as soon as guilt could be properly fixed. Nor did this proceed from the hot-headed youth or the intemperate ones. Staid men of family seriously discussed the advisability of invoking lynch law, as this was the fourth unpunished murder, and the malefactors in three instances had gone unchanged.

Before the jury of inquisition convened the accused had concluded that their interests were unsafe in the hands of one of their own race, and called into requisition the services of Eston Randolph, Esq., to replace those of T. T. Henry, who conducted their case at the preliminary hearing of Tuesday last. Mr. Randolph, however, made it an express condition of his taking hold of the case that he would drop the defense at once should testimony be adduced tending to prove to his mind the guilt of the accused.

At 11 o'clock a meeting of citizens was in session, having for its purpose the raising of a fund to expend in furthering the ends of justice. This meeting had received a splendid impetus through the exertions of Mr. James F. Pugh, of the Herald, who had interested himself in starting a subscription fund, which now amounts to \$1,235. To this may be added the \$500 pledged from the Council, and a similar sum from the Real Estate Exchange.

The excitement on the streets was at its height when the coroner's jury proceeded to the house of the foully murdered gentleman to fulfill the conditions of the law by viewing the remains. The mayor's office was thronged with solid citizens, the names of the jurors forming and index of the characters of the attendants. The jury was composed as follows: Thomas W. Miller, Esq., foreman; H. S. Trout, T. T. Fishburne, E. H. Stewart, Major A. S. Pitzer and C. E. Watson.

Upon leaving the late residence of the deceased the jury repaired to the mayor's office, where they went into an ante-room to hold a private consultation. When they emerged from the room Foreman Miller announced that inasmuch as the case was one of the gravest importance that the jury had arrived at the conclusion that it was inexpedient to hold a public hearing, and requested everyone not connected with the case to retire.

Mr. Randolph vigorously objected to being shut out from a hearing fraught with so much of interest to his clients. He claimed that the proceeding, if not illegal, was at least irregular, and he protested against what he termed a star-chamber method.

Commonwealth's Attorney Roy B. Smith supplemented Mr. Randolph's protest with the statement that he did not object to the latter's presence, and thought that if he (Smith) were allowed to remain as the representative of the State Mr. Randolph should have an equal privilege in behalf of his clients. J. L. Rodier, of THE TIMES, also made a vigorous protest against the exclusion of the press. He called attention to the fact that the wider the publicity given the proceedings the more justice was enabled to act intelligently, and instanced several cases where the guilty

had been apprehended and the innocent protected through the efforts of the newspapers.

Mr. Thomas, of the Herald, also entered a protest against exclusion, but Mr. Miller was obdurate and insisted upon the room being cleared. At this juncture Mr. Rodier announced that he had some material facts to offer to the jury, as did Mr. Thomas, and it was finally decided to allow them to remain. The room was then cleared, Mr. Randolph meanwhile vehemently protesting.

A stenographer was then sent for and the examination proceeded with.

Dr. James L. Stone was the first witness. He testified that he was called to L. Lacey Hoge's residence between 7 and 8 o'clock on the night of the 22d, by a messenger who announced that Mr. Thos. G. Massie had been assaulted and badly beaten, and was then at Mr. Hoge's house. Went there and found Mr. Massie lying on a lounge suffering intensely from his wounds. The blow over the eye had broken the skull, but there was no compression; the one upon the back of the head was of lesser extent, and if made by the same instrument was the result of a lighter blow. Called upon Mr. Massie at his home, whence he had been removed, on Tuesday, when he found his patient in a high fever; called again Wednesday forenoon, when this condition had increased. Dr. Stone minutely described the wound over the eye; it was of an irregular triangle shape; in his opinion the wound could have been produced by any blunt instrument or with a stone. Deceased was in good general health, and the cause of death originated with the wound.

Dr. R. W. Fry was next called. He was called into the case at 2 o'clock on the 23d as consulting physician with Dr. Gale. At that time Mr. Massie was a very sick man; his temperature, according to his associate's record, of the night before, had been reduced some three degrees, presumably as a result of administering an anti-pyretic. There was much swelling then above and below the eye, but the wound itself was less angry than might have been expected. Considered the case at this stage as very serious, as the patient was evidently suffering from inflammation of the brain and meninges. Both the inner and outer wall of the skull had been fractured was his then diagnosis, which was borne out by the results of the autopsy.

In response to a question by the coroner as to the cause of Mr. Massie's death, Dr. Fry said: "Death was caused, in my opinion, by the inflammation of the brain and meninges, supervening upon the injury received."

Dr. Fry stated that deceased gave every evidence of being in good health outside of the injuries in question.

Dr. Joseph A. Gale was sworn. He stated that his services were called into requisition at about 9:30 p. m. on the 24th, at which time Mr. Massie's condition indicated high fever; recognized the witness when the latter announced his presence in the sick chamber. There was considerable swelling about the injured eye, and the surrounding tissues were greatly discolored. The patient was sensible, but was disinclined to conversation. Regarded him as a desperately ill man, and requested that Dr. Fry be called into consultation. Saw Massie again at 9 o'clock Christmas morning; his temperature had decreased somewhat, as a result of anti-febrile treatment, applied soothing methods, but the patient's temperature never fell below 100½ degrees.

Dr. Gale then recounted his treatment on Christmas day in connection with Dr. Fry, and said that when he called the next morning (the 26th), he ascertained that his patient had passed a most restless night, and saw that his condition was decidedly worse; he showed evidences of great prostration and sinking symptoms, which increased until 7:20 p. m., at which time Mr. Massie passed away. He then related the results of the autopsy, as stated in yesterday morning's TIMES.

When asked by Dr. Gray as to the cause of death, Dr. Gale answered, in slow and measured terms: "It is my positive opinion that Mr. Massie's death was caused by an inflammatory condition of the brain and its membranes, the result of the blow over his right eye, which fractured his skull."

Being asked, in his opinion, what instrument produced the wounds, Dr. Gale says they might have been produced by a slung-shot, brass knuckles, hammer, stone, or by a variety of other things.

Chief Morris was called upon to get from his store of seized deadly weapons some knuckles and slung-shots, and they were used to enlighten the jurors as to their uses.

Messrs. Fishburne, Trout and Stewart confessed that the occasion was the first time either had ever seen the instruments in question.

Dr. E. Gordon Simmons concurred in the testimony of his colleagues on the occasion of the autopsy.

Thomas B. Massie, son of the murdered man, was next called. On the fatal evening he went to his father's office between 4 and 5 o'clock. He saw Redd and Williamson leaving; knew of his father leaving business with them, and asked if it were terminated. His father said: "Yes, they came up better than I thought they would." Was then writing a letter which he asked witness to mail.

Witness asked deceased to go home with him, but the latter said that he had further writing to do. Mailed the letter and went to his boarding house, where he was at supper, when he received word that his father had been hurt; went at once to Mr. Hoge's house, where his father was under Dr. Jones' care. He described the wound, and went on to state that his father said he had no idea who could have assaulted him. His father said he had been followed by two men, who had been singing or whistling on the way. When opposite Mr. Gambill's gate they came rapidly near and one of them struck him. His father said he did not know who delivered the blow, or whether the party was a white man or a negro; deceased said he had no apprehension, as the night was so bright. The next morning he repaired to the scene of the trag-

edy in hope of finding some clew to the perpetrators. Could find none, nor had he as yet found his father's cane, which he habitually carried.

At this point Mr. Trout, of the jury, near whose residence the crime was enacted, said that the morning after the assault he found a long, smooth stone, oblong in shape, near the scene, which had apparently been carried hither after the snow storm. It had no trace of blood on it to his mind, but he placed it up against Mr. Gambill's fence for future observation.

[During the recess a reporter for THE TIMES took a shovel and scraped away the snow along the fence in question, but failed to find a stone of any description.]

H. Chipman (Mr. Massie's partner in the real estate business), and S. N. Shelton, an employe in the office, related the incident of Redd's and Williamson's lengthy stay in the office on the 22nd, printed heretofore, as also the story of Redd's appearance Friday afternoon in the office and his conduct on that occasion, as stated in yesterday's TIMES. Mr. Shelton also said that he saw Williamson, one of the accused, alone, gazing intently through the window office after they had concluded their business with Mr. Massie.

[The substance of this testimony was of public comment last night, and did not proceed from the reporter in attendance.—ED. TIMES.]

The statement has no particular bearing upon the case, except so far as it directly controverts the statements of both Redd and Williamson on the night of their original arrest, made to a TIMES reporter, that they remained together until after 5 o'clock, when they parted at Mulcare's hardware store.

At this point a recess was taken for dinner, after which the statement of Ernest H. Fishburne, a lad of 16, who said he saw one man run away across the street toward some unfinished houses after the cry of murder was raised, but could not tell whether he was white or black.

The jury then went to Mrs. R. Lacy Hoge's residence, where they took Mrs. Hoge's statement, before made public in these columns, and from thence to Mrs. Bright's, where the testimony of Maud Cooper, a negro nurse girl of 12, was taken. She also said that she saw one man run across the vacant lots toward Patterson avenue, but could tell nothing about him as to color or size.

After returning to the mayor's office the jury adjourned until 3 p. m. this afternoon.

A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

Lawyer Eston Randolph Sues for the Release of the Prisoners.

The proceedings at the inquest were uneventful and interrupted about 3:30 by the appearance of Eston Randolph, Esq., with a statement that Judge Robertson had issued a writ of habeas corpus for the release of Redd and Williamson. He had not the writ in possession, and for a few minutes there was some lively traveling back and forth between the city building, the jail, and the mayor's office. In the meanwhile Chief Morris got out a new warrant "on information," charging Redd and Williamson with the murder of Mr. Massie.

Finally the writ of habeas corpus was served and the prisoners taken before Judge Robertson, sitting in the clerk's office. Commonwealth's Attorney Smith and ex-Senator Bibb appeared for the commonwealth. Formalities were waived, and as the men had been arrested without a warrant, they were released and immediately re-arrested under the new warrants.

Mr. Randolph moved that the prisoners be admitted to bail, and brought forward witnesses to prove alibis for his clients. Previously, however, Chief Morris was examined and stated that the warrant was issued on information obtained at the inquest, and that he had no other knowledge implicating the prisoners.

Mr. Randolph made objections to the fact that he had been excluded from the inquest, and Mr. Smith gave the retort courteous that he had endeavored in vain to have Mr. Randolph admitted.

J. S. Gravatt, butcher, and J. M. Brim, huckster, both white testified separately that they were in Williamson's restaurant between 6:30 and 6:45 Monday night and that he was there, that he made mention of money having been paid over for some property that day.

Williamson's cook, a stout colored woman named Fanny Morgan swore that Williamson was in the whole evening, that about 7 o'clock he complained of a headache and lay down on a mattress behind [under] the counter until 10 o'clock, and that the place was closed at ten.

Will Eddy, a sleepy-looking colored boy, stated that he was in Williamson's from 5 till 10 sitting near a red-hot stove and didn't go to sleep, and that Williamson was in there all the time.

For Redd, J. B. Francis, W. R. Dwyer, J. B. McIntire, Bob Craddock, W. C. Heth, H. F. Ratley and J. Ash were called, but only the latter two were present. Ratley, who is the head of a snack house on Railroad avenue, of which Redd seems to be the silent partner, swore that he was with Redd around the city and in the two snack houses from 5 o'clock until after 8. He also gave testimony as to Redd's financial solidity and the success of his restaurant.

J. Ash, Redd's clerk, gave alibi testimony covering Redd's presence before and after the time of the assault.

At this point Mr. Randolph made renewed demands for the presence of the coroner's witnesses, but the inquest was still in session and many of the witnesses could not then be reached. After a more or less informal discussion of points Judge Robertson adjourned the hearing until Monday at 10 o'clock, at which time the coroner's witnesses will be examined and the question of bail decided. The prisoners were then remanded to jail.

THE TIMES is the leading paper of the mineral belt of the two Virginias. If you want to keep posted on the development of this section you cannot afford to be without it.

WILLIAMSON'S ALIBI.

Was He Lying on His Pallet From 7 o'clock Until 10?

The testimony of Fannie Morgan, Williamson's cook, in the bail proceedings, was the backbone of his alibi. She swore she could see all over the snack-house from the cook stove in the L; that at about 7 o'clock he complained of a headache and lay down on a pallet behind the counter, where he remained until 10, under her observation as she had come forward and taken his place behind the counter.

A TIMES reporter visited the place in company with Sergeant Jones. It is a dingy, slovenly-looking, disease-breeding sort of a one-story shanty at the northwest corner of Nelson street and Salem avenue from the angle formed, by the two sides of which sullenly swings a sign bearing the legend that R. H. Williamson keeps a restaurant and furnishes lunches.

The low ceiling and walls on the inside of the structure are unplastered and unpainted, and around them cobwebs and dirt contest place with articles cooked and sold in the place.

The rooms, or rather room, is L-shaped, in the western extremity of which is situated the cook-stove, and in the southern end is the door leading out on Salem avenue.

Parallel with Nelson street runs the counter. That portion of the L on which the counter and its necessary pass-way abut is partitioned off with pieces of boxing, in which is but one hole through which to look from the L.

No one but the Morgan woman can say that Williamson lay on that pallet from 7 till 10. The pallet is invisible, except from behind the counter. Williamson may have been there or he may not. He might as well have been shut up in a safe so far as public observation would bear evidence.

AT THE EXCHANGE.

Meetings of the Citizens and the Real Estate Exchange.

Crane hung on the door of the Real Estate Exchange yesterday, and folds of crumpled paper encircled the walls of the room.

Thomas G. Massie, an honored and respected member, was dead, the victim of brutal murderers and robbers. The citizens of the city and the members of the Exchange were assembling to express their indignation, and to take active steps to apprehend the perpetrators of the deed that caused the death of a fellow-citizen and a fellow-member.

The citizens held a meeting first and many of Roanoke's prominent men of affairs were present. Mayor Evans presided and briefly but tersely stated the object of the meeting.

Every eye could read in the mayor's expression a determination to lead in the movement to unearth the mystery that seems to surround this terrible crime, as he asked the citizens to support the authorities in their best efforts.

There were no violent outbursts of indignation, but from the strong remarks of several gentlemen and the general tenor of the meeting it was very evident that the citizens were determined that the murderers of Mr. Massie shall be overtaken by justice.

It was found that the subscription list footed up over a thousand dollars and it was decided that including what the Real Estate Exchange would give and the reward offered by the mayor that the total amount should be at least \$3,000. It was also decided to place all the money raised with the amount offered by the mayor in a common fund. Mayor Evans and Councilman Trout were appointed on a committee to take charge of the fund and use it as they deem best for ferreting out the crime.

It is probable that part of the money will be offered as a reward and the remainder used to pay the expenses of detectives, who will be employed to work up the case.

L. L. Powell, Colonel S. S. Brooke and Rev. Dr. O. F. Flippo were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions on the death of Mr. Massie.

Immediately after the adjournment of the citizens' meeting the Real Estate Exchange assembled according to the call ordered by President Hockaday. In this as in the other meeting, evidences of suppressed indignation were very apparent and many members of the exchange urged the importance of speedy and thorough action in this matter, and the meeting was unanimously of the opinion that the exchange should liberally add to the amount that had already been subscribed.

On motion of Mr. Wingfield it was unanimously decided that the exchange pledge \$500. Of this \$250 was subscribed by the members present, and Messrs. Maupin and London volunteered to see the members who had not subscribed, and solicit further sums of money.

Messrs. Yager, Young and Ludwig were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions on the death of Mr. Massie, and reported as follows:

Whereas, The Real Estate Exchange learns with profound regret of the death of Thomas G. Massie, one of its most zealous and honored members; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Thomas G. Massie, the State has lost a patriotic citizen; this city an honored and respected gentleman; this body a warm supporter, and the community a faithful friend;

Resolved, That the sympathy and condolence of this body be extended to the family of Mr. Massie in their great affliction;

Resolved, That the secretary be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the stricken family, and that the newspapers of the city be requested to publish the same.

F. B. Ludwig, Chairman;
WM. M. YAGER,
E. O. YOUNG.

Messrs. Dapuy and Wingfield were appointed members of the committee to

take charge of the funds with Mayor Evans and Mr. Trout, who were appointed by the citizens' meeting.

The exchange adjourned to assemble at 1:30 to-day to attend the funeral of Mr. Massie in a body.

The rooms of the Exchange were closed after the adjournment of the meeting.

Is It John T. Redd?

Chief of Police Morris received the following telegram from Norfolk last evening:

Arrest Marcellus Williams, alias John T. Redd, alias Red Horse. Wanted for felonious assault on Seth Brook. Wire me.

C. E. PELLAS,
Chief of Police.

Several atrocious crimes have recently occurred in Norfolk, and the question is whether the Redd now in jail as the suspected murderer of Mr. Massie is the one wanted in Norfolk.

Mr. Massie's Funeral.

The funeral services of Mr. Massie will be held this afternoon at 2:30 at St. John's Episcopal church, conducted by Rev. Dr. Meade, the rector.

The following are the pall-bearers: all of whom are members of the Real Estate Exchange: H. Chipman, W. P. Dapuy, C. C. Taltierro, George F. Hunter, J. B. Hockaday, S. C. London, J. R. Wingfield and William M. Yager.

The members of the Real Estate Exchange will attend in a body. They will assemble at the office of the Exchange at 1:30 and go from there to the residence and accompany the remains to the church.

The Family's Affliction.

The whole public sympathizes with Mrs. Massie and her family in their terrible bereavement. Their affliction becomes doubly sorrowful when it is borne in mind that a manly son and brother was taken away by death this summer. In fact, Mr. Massie said before his death that at the time he received the fatal blow the thought upon his mind was of the death of his son and of what a sad Christmas this would be to him.

JUST INDIGNATION.

The Police Resent the Charge That They were Drunk Christmas.

Much indignation was expressed last night in police circles over an anonymous communication in the World of last evening, charging the police force with responsibility for much of the lawlessness prevalent in the city. The article also charged that half the police were drunk Christmas night.

"That is an unmitigated lie," said Chief Morris last night to a TIMES reporter. "The party should give the names of those whom he charges with drunkenness, and he would, if he possessed any."

"As to another charge, that the police should have been on hand to prevent the Massie outrage, let it be remembered that I have but one policeman, day and night, to guard the First ward—over one-third the territory of the city."

Sergeant Jones and Station-keeper John C. Bailly both stated that they each saw all the police at different periods during the day in question, and not one of them was affected by liquor in the slightest degree.

The privates asked the reporter to urge any reputable citizen who saw any member of the force under the influence of liquor on that day to report the case to the chief, who would summarily deal with the offender.

INDIAN TROUBLES OVER.

No Fear of an Outbreak of Hostilities in the Spring.

DICKINSON, N. D., Dec. 27.—[Special]—Lieutenant Snyderham and Scout Spence, of Captain Fountain's command of the Eighth cavalry, have arrived here with dispatches. They report that there was no foundation for the story that the command was hemmed in by 500 hostiles in Cave Hills.

Captain Fountain had not, up to Christmas morning, been able to discover any trace of Indians, but had learned that Sitting Bull's followers are on their way to Pine Ridge and Cherry Creek reservations. The stories about ranchmen being murdered and property destroyed by the hostiles were also stated to be unfounded.

As far as the military authorities here are aware, not a single shot was exchanged between the Indians and the troops.

A general summary of the disposition of the troops show that the entire reservation was hemmed in by troops ready for the field, and fears of an outbreak in the spring are groundless.

Editor Pugh's Present.

Editor James A. Pugh, of the Herald, has been presented with a beautiful gold-headed cane by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Virginia Press Association in recognition of his courteous treatment of them during the recent convention. The present was accompanied by a graceful letter from Mrs. Bullitt Fishburne, secretary and treasurer of the auxiliary.

Col. Brooke's Presents.

The employes of Col. Brooke were treated to very substantial Christmas presents by the colonel. Nearly, if not, all of them are men of families, and the colonel had sent to all of them a full supply for the latter, consisting of such articles as flour, canned goods, and groceries of all kinds, besides fruits and candies.

Clarence Hall Drops Dead.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 27.—[Special]—Clarence L. Hall, passenger agent of the Anchor line of steamers, dropped dead to-day at noon, on the corner of Union and Front streets, from apoplexy. Deceased was 55 years of age, and had been connected with river interests for more than thirty years.